GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:471
ANSWERED ON:07.07.2004
ILLEGAL OCCUPATION OF AREAS BY NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES
Athawale Shri Ramdas

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some of the neighbouring countries have illegally occupied certain areas of our country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, country-wise;

(c) whether Pakistan has illegally occupied our territory and has given a part of it to China;

(d) if so, the facts thereof;

(e) the areas freed from the possession of the neighbouring countries till date; and

(f) the extent to which the said matter has been highlighted at the international arena?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED)

(a) to (f) India has outstanding boundary issues to be resolved with Pakistan and China. China continues to be in illegal occupation of approximately 38,000 sq. kms in the Indian State of Jammu and Kashmir. Pakistan has been in illegal and forcible occupation of approximately 78,000 sq. kms. Under so called `Sino-Pakistan Boundary Agreement of 1963`, Pakistan illegally ceded 5,180 sq. kms of Indian territory to China.

India and China seek a fair, reasonable and mutually acceptable settlement of the boundary question through peaceful consultations. In the Declaration on Principles for Relations and Comprehensive Cooperation issued on June 23, 2003 during Prime Minister`s visit to China, India and China have agreed that both would appoint Special Representative to explore from the political perspective of the overall bilateral relationship the framework of boundary settlement. Two meetings of the Special Representatives have taken place so far. India and Pakistan are committed under the Simla Agreement to resolve all outstanding issues peacefully and bilaterally.